

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 19, 2001

SENATE BILL

No. 237

Introduced by Senator Vincent

February 14, 2001

An act to add Section 21376 to the Vehicle Code, relating to vehicles.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 237, as amended, Vincent. Streets and highways: traffic signs, signals, and markings.

Existing law requires the Department of Transportation and local authorities in their respective jurisdictions, to place and maintain, or cause to be placed and maintained, appropriate signs, signals, and other traffic control devices. Under various provisions of existing law, the abandonment of animals is prohibited.

This bill would require *and, in certain cases, authorize*, the Department of Transportation ~~and each local, with respect to streets, roads, and highways under their respective jurisdictions, to place and maintain, or cause to be placed and maintained, where the unlawful abandonment of animals is occurring, signs pertaining to the unlawful abandonment of animals. By imposing new duties on local authorities, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program to place and maintain on certain highways a sign that states that the abandonment or dumping of any animal is a crime punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 or by confinement in a county jail of up to 6 months, or both.~~

~~The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement, including the creation of a State Mandates Claims Fund to pay the costs of mandates that do not exceed \$1,000,000 statewide~~

~~and other procedures for claims whose statewide costs exceed \$1,000,000.~~

~~This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: *yes no*.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 21376 is added to the Vehicle Code, to
2 read:

3 ~~21376. The Department of Transportation and each local~~
4 *21376. (a) The Department of Transportation shall place*
5 *and maintain on each state highway entering the state within 500*
6 *feet after the state line, a sign that states that the abandonment or*
7 *dumping of any animal is a crime punishable by a fine of up to one*
8 *thousand dollars (\$1,000) or confinement in a county jail of up to*
9 *six months, or both. These signs shall also be posted on state*
10 *highways at the beginning of any designated desert and forest*
11 *area, and on any state highway within 500 feet after the*
12 *designation of a county line.*

13 *(b) The department may also place and maintain the signs*
14 *described in subdivision (a) at any location on a highway where*
15 *statistical data maintained and provided by the department or*
16 *other law enforcement agency with responsibility for freeway and*
17 *highway safety in that area, shows a high incidence of animals*
18 *running at large on the highway, animal-related vehicular*
19 *accidents, animals struck or killed by vehicles, or reported*
20 *abandonment of animals, thereby creating an increased risk to the*
21 *motoring public.*

22 ~~authority, with respect to streets, roads, and highways under their~~
23 ~~respective jurisdictions, shall place and maintain, or cause to be~~
24 ~~placed and maintained, where the unlawful abandonment of~~
25 ~~animals is occurring, signs to increase the public awareness of~~
26 ~~violations pertaining to the unlawful abandonment of animals.~~

27 ~~SEC. 2. Notwithstanding Section 17610 of the Government~~
28 ~~Code, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that this~~
29 ~~act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local~~

1 ~~agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made pursuant~~
2 ~~to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title~~
3 ~~2 of the Government Code. If the statewide cost of the claim for~~
4 ~~reimbursement does not exceed one million dollars (\$1,000,000),~~
5 ~~reimbursement shall be made from the State Mandates Claims~~
6 ~~Fund.~~

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